

ERPETON TENTACULATUS.



CHARACTER GENERICUS.

Corpus caudaque squamosa.

Abdomen scutatum.

CHARACTER SPECIFICUS, &c.

ERPETON rostro utrinque tentaculato.

ERPETON TENTACULATUS. *Cepede.*

Ab illustri Cepede institutum genus Erpeton ex unica constat specie quæ insulas Indicas creditur incolere, quamque insigniunt tentacula duo, seu quasi cornua, super labium superius sita, parvulis squamis vestita, nec unquam retracta. Bipedali quasi longitudine est Erpeton tentaculatus, veneni expers, dentes habens minimos, eodem modo dispositos quo dentes serpentum innocuorum. Cuiam vivendi modo se precipue assuescat, non satis est comper tum.

Specimen quod descripsit Cepede in museo Principis Aransiaci asservatur.



TENTACULATED ERPETON.



GENERIC CHARACTER.

Body and tail scaly.

Abdomen lamellated.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER, &c.

ERPETON with the upper lip tentaculated on each side.

ERPETON tentaculé.

Cepede Ann. Mus. National D'Hist. Nat.

No. 10. p. 280. pl. 1.

The genus Erpeton, instituted by the Comte de Cepede, consists at present of a single species, which is supposed to be a native of the Indian islands, and is remarkable for a pair of tentacula or elongated processes situated above the upper lip: these tentacula are covered with very minute scales, and are not retractile. The animal measures about two feet in length, and is not of a poisonous nature, the teeth, which are very small, resembling those of innoxious serpents. Of its particular habits or history nothing seems to be known.

The specimen described by Cepede belonged to the Museum of the Prince of Orange.